



Arizona
Department of
Transportation

NEWS

For Immediate Release
For more information, contact the I-17 hotline:
480.890.3055

Detours for I-17 ramps at Carefree Highway start Monday (Feb. 11)

Drivers in the North Valley should be aware of detours starting Monday (Feb. 11) and Tuesday (Feb. 12) for two of the ramps at the Interstate 17 interchange with Carefree Highway (State Route 74).

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) says drivers will use two new circular ramps as detour routes for approximately one month while two other existing ramps are reconstructed as part of a \$19.6 million reconstruction of the interchange. Plans to start the detours two weekends ago were rescheduled due to wet weather.

As the detours go into effect, ADOT also advises drivers to anticipate minor delays and allow extra travel time, particularly during the morning peak traffic hours.

Scheduled restrictions to put the detours in place, starting Sunday night, are as follows:

Northbound Interstate 17 narrowed to one lane and the northbound on- and off-ramps at Carefree Highway (SR 74) closed from 9 p.m. Sunday to 5 a.m. Monday (Feb. 11).

Southbound I-17 narrowed to one lane and the southbound on- and off-ramps at Carefree Highway (SR 74) closed from 9 p.m. Monday to 5 a.m. Tuesday (Feb. 12).

The existing northbound I-17 exit ramp and southbound entrance ramp will be closed for approximately one month while crews reconstruct them to fit the new configuration at the interchange.

Traffic affected by the overnight closures (Sunday and Monday nights) will be detoured through the interchanges at Happy Valley and Pioneer roads.

The loop ramps also will include temporary traffic signals at Carefree Highway to allow access to and from the highway in either direction.

Once the two older (existing) ramps have been reconstructed, Carefree Highway traffic will be routed onto a new portion of the wider bridge being built over I-17. The old bridge will be removed to make room for completion of the new bridge.

The new Carefree Highway interchange project is expected to be finished this fall. The new interchange features standard diamond ramps but also will use the new loop ramps to reduce left turns for traffic exiting I-17 northbound and entering I-17 southbound.

The Carefree Highway interchange project is one of several I-17 improvement projects included in the voter-approved Regional Transportation Plan, a comprehensive program of Valleywide transportation improvements through 2025.

Drivers can visit ADOT's Interstate 17 North Web page at www.azdot.gov/ValleyFreeways for the times and locations of planned restrictions and closures on I-17. They also can sign up for ADOT's I-17 weekly e-mail traffic alert and podcast.

For general information about I-17 improvements, contact the project hotline at 480-890-3055 or projectupdate@lewin-associates.com.

For a complete listing of freeway and highway restrictions across Arizona, visit ADOT's Travel Information Site at www.az511.com or call 5-1-1.